

Harbor Signal Clues

Use text features to notice how a story builds meaning.

3R7 “Explain how specific illustrations or text features contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a text (e.g., create mood, emphasize character or setting, or determine where, when, why, and how key events occur). (RI&RL)”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the **passage title**, underline each italicized sound word, and box each time you see the words “Not yet.” These text features help show the setting, mood, and important event.

The Bell at Dusk

- ① Mara stood at the end of the wooden pier as evening fog slid over the harbor. Boats became gray shapes, and the water tapped softly against the posts. In the village, windows began to glow. Mara held the rope of the old bell and listened for her father’s fishing boat. The air smelled of salt and rain.
- ② A small wave slapped the pier. Mara pulled the bell rope once. *Clang!* The sound rolled across the water, then faded into the fog. “Not yet,” Mara whispered. She waited and rang again. *Clang!* “Not yet,” she said, but she stood straighter. Each loud sound told her father that someone was waiting near the shore.
- ③ At last, a boat horn answered from beyond the dock. Mara rang the bell a third time, faster now. A dark boat moved toward the glowing windows. Her father waved from its deck. The fog was still thick, but Mara smiled as the boat reached the pier. The bell had helped guide her father home before night covered the harbor.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 The passage title is **The Bell at Dusk**. How do the words “at Dusk” help you understand when the story happens and why the bell is important?

2 How do the italicized words *Clang!* contribute to the event in the story?

3 The words “Not yet” appear two times. How does repeating these words emphasize Mara’s feelings and actions?

4 The boats are called “gray shapes,” but the village windows are “glowing.” How do these word choices contribute to the mood?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a title and a three-sentence scene about someone trying to get home. Make the title show the setting or time, repeat a short phrase two times, and include a sound word to help show the character’s feeling.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the **passage title**, underline each italicized sound word, and box each time you see the words “Not yet.” These text features help show the setting, mood, and important event. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	The passage title is The Bell at Dusk . How do the words “at Dusk” help you understand when the story happens and why the bell is important?	They show that evening is becoming dark. The bell is important because it helps guide Mara’s father through the fog before night.
2	How do the italicized words <i>Clang!</i> contribute to the event in the story?	They help the reader hear the loud bell sound. The sound shows how Mara tries to signal her father’s boat across the water.
3	The words “Not yet” appear two times. How does repeating these words emphasize Mara’s feelings and actions?	The repetition shows that Mara is still waiting and worried, but she keeps ringing the bell and does not give up.
4	The boats are called “gray shapes,” but the village windows are “glowing.” How do these word choices contribute to the mood?	The gray shapes make the foggy harbor feel uncertain and hard to see. The glowing windows make the shore feel warm, safe, and hopeful.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Night Trail The moon was low when Inez heard a branch snap beside the snowy path. “Keep moving,” she told herself, “keep moving,” while *crack!* sounded behind her. She hurried toward the warm lights of her cabin.

Accept answers that connect a named text feature to what it helps the reader understand about the setting, mood, character, or event. For the writing task, accept varied scenes when the title, repeated phrase, and sound word each support the scene’s meaning.